



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, the Idaho Head Start is now in its 39th year of success in meeting the needs of children from low-income families; and

WHEREAS, the Head Start program has established itself as the foremost early childhood development program in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, to achieve its goals, Head Start is not only responsible for providing a rich preschool learning environment, but is also responsible for providing a comprehensive nutrition and health program; and

WHEREAS, ongoing health care for Head Start children is promoted through family involvement in the Child Health Insurance and Outreach activities; and

WHEREAS, Head Start assists families in obtaining up to date immunizations for all enrolled children and their siblings; and

WHEREAS, to promote literacy, Head Start recognizes the value of reading to children and encourages reading activities; and

WHEREAS, with the complex and shifting family structures, increasing family violence, substance abuse, homelessness and mental illness, Head Start has a challenge for strengthening the families of children enrolled in the program; and

WHEREAS, in addition to focusing on the needs of children, Head Start involves the parents in the education of their own children, in decision making for the program, and hires many qualified parents as Head Start staff; and

WHEREAS, Head Start program personnel recognize the remarkable strengths and courage of families as they struggle to provide the best for their children; and

WHEREAS, Idaho is the first state in the Nation to use TANF money to expand the number of families enrolled in Head Start. The contract with Health and Welfare provides services using the Head Start model to promote parent self sufficiency through family focuses services; and

WHEREAS, Head Start is a cost effective family focused program that has proven to save taxpayers four dollars for every dollar invested in the program;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2004, to be

HEAD START DAY

in Idaho.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this twenty-fifth day of August in the year of our Lord two-thousand and four and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-ninth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred fifteenth.

A handwritten signature of Dirk Kempthorne in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature of Ben Ysursa in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

BEN YSURSA
SECRETARY OF STATE